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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/544,507	04/06/2000	Giampiero M. Sierra	MS1-486US	9078
22801	7590	07/09/2007	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			TRAN, MYLINH T	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2179		
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/09/2007		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

lhptoms@leehayes.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/544,507	SIERRA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Mylinh Tran	2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2007.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,5,9,13,17 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection.

Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on 04/13/07 has been entered.

Applicant's Amendment filed 04/13/07 carefully considered. Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended. However, the limitations of the amended claims have not been found to be patentable over prior art of record and newly discovered prior art, Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are rejected under the new ground of rejection as set forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary.

Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robertson [US. 6,609,106] in view of Bornemisza-Wahr et al. [US.6,073,119].

As to claims 1, 9 and 17, Robertson teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding apparatus for using in a graphical user interface configured to support a login operation comprising the steps/means for: displaying at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area (figure 20A) operatively associated with a previously configured user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password input (figure 18, column 20, lines 26-36); upon receiving user input selecting the at least one selectable user area, displaying at least one user input field within the graphical user interface wherein the at least one user input field is automatically configured to operatively receive user password input associated with the login operation (figure 20 A);

while conditions allow for the reception of the user password input and it is determined that there has been a failure to operatively receive the user password input for the login operation, then automatically displaying reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface (figure20C, column 20, lines 40-53);

Robertson fails to teach or suggest the display of the reminder information being removed upon receipt of a beginning of an input via the at least one user input field, removing reminder (hint balloon) information associated with the user input field upon beginning to input a second user password; the failure being detected at least in part by failure to receive the user password input for a given amount of time; and displaying a non-modal mechanism as a hint balloon.

However, Bornemisza-Wahr et al. [US.6,073,119] teach the “password popup appearance” at column 19, lines 62-66 and column 20, lines 24-33). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the password popup of Bornemisza-Wahr et al. with the Robertson’s system. The motivation of the combination would have been to enhance a network security system.

It was well known in the computer art that the implementations in which the display of the reminder information is removed upon receipt of an input via the at least one user input field because when the password is entered in the

"password" input field, another user interface screen will be provided to the user. The reminder information will be disappeared (removed) in the new screen.

It was well known in the computer art that the implementations in which the failure is detected at least in party by failure to receive the user password input for a given amount of time because when the invalid password is entered in the "password" input field, it takes a given amount of time to pop up a password hint.

It was well known that the graphical user interface displays a non-modal mechanism as a hint balloon instead a text popup of is taught in the computer art because it is a design choice.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well known implementation with the teaching of Robertson. Motivation would have been to enhance the security system.

As to claim 5, Robertson also teaches the reminder information including user provided password reminder information (figure 18, column 13, lines 51-65). However, Robertson fails to teach or suggest the display of the reminder information being removed upon receipt of an input via the at least one user input field; the failure being detected at least in party by failure to receive the user password input for a given amount of time; and displaying a non-modal mechanism as a hint balloon.

It was well known in the computer art that the implementations in which the display of the reminder information is removed upon receipt of an input via the at least one user input field because when the password is entered in the "password" input field, another user interface screen will be provided to the user. The reminder information will be disappeared (removed) in the new screen.

It was well known in the computer art that the implementations in which the failure is detected at least in part by failure to receive the user password input for a given amount of time because when the invalid password is entered in the "password" input field, it takes a given amount of time to pop up a password hint.

It was well known that the graphical user interface displays a non-modal mechanism as a hint balloon instead a text popup of is taught in the computer art because it is a design choice.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well known implementation with the teaching of Robertson. Motivation would have been to enhance the security system.

As to claims 13 and 21, they are similar in scope to claim 5; therefore, they should be rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments regarding claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4141.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo, can be reached at 571-272-4847.

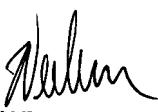
The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mylinh Tran

Art Unit 2179


WEILUN LO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER